What is Claimed is

A flat information recording/processing device that is characterized by having a thin sensor for detecting fingerprints and a conversion unit that converts the fingerprint data detected by the fingerprint sensor into digital electrical signals.

A flat information recording/processing device that is characterized by having a thin sensor for detecting fingerprints, a memory unit that stores the fingerprint data detected by the sensor as registered fingerprint data, and a fingerprint matching unit that compares newly detected fingerprint data with the registered fingerprint data stored in the memory.

characterized by having a thin sensor for detecting fingerprints, a memory unit that stores the fingerprint data detected by the sensor as registered fingerprint data, and a fingerprint matching unit that compares newly detected fingerprint data with the registered fingerprint data stored in the memory and outputs a "Yes" signal when there is a match of the fingerprints in the comparison.

4. A flat information recording/processing device described in one of the claims 1-3 above and which is characterized by having a second memory unit in which specific information about each user is stored.

5. A flat information recording/processing device described in one of the claims 1-4 above in which the fingerprint sensor is a surface pressure input type sensor.

A flat information recording/processing device that has a portable information recording unit equipped with a thin sensor for detecting fingerprints, a first memory unit that stores the fingerprint data detected by the sensor as registered fingerprint data and a second memory unit in which user-specific information is kept, and an information processing unit that is equipped with a fingerprint matching unit that compares newly detected fingerprint data with the registered fingerprint data stored in the first memory unit and a display unit that displays the user-specific information stored in the above-mentioned second memory unit and information processing unit which can display the above information in the above display when there is a match of fingerprints.

- 7. The information recording/processing unit described in claim 6 above in which the information processing unit is capable of reading out, writing in, and rewriting the information stored in the second memory unit of the information recording unit.
- 8. The information recording/processing unit described in claim 6 or 7 above in which the information processing unit is further equipped with a second thin fingerprint sensor for detecting fingerprints and a third memory unit that stores the

fingerprint data detected by the second fingerprint sensor as registered fingerprint data.

by having a fingerprint sensor for detecting finger prints, a fingerprint matching unit that compares fingerprint data detected by the above-mentioned sensor with pre-registered fingerprint data, and a control mechanism that controls the functions or operation of the machine/system according to the user-specific information specified by the fingerprint, when there is a match of fingerprints.

- by having a fingerprint sensor for detecting fingerprints, a first memory unit that stores the fingerprint data detected by the sensor as registered fingerprint data, a fingerprint matching unit that compares fingerprint data detected by the abovementioned sensor with the registered fingerprint data stored in the memory unit, and a control mechanism that controls the functions or operation of the machine/system according to the user-specific information specified by the fingerprint, when there is a match of fingerprints.
- 11. A machine/system control device that is specified in claim 9 or 10 above in which the user-specific information is age.

12. A machine/system control device that is specified in claim 9, 10 or 11 above in which the fingerprint sensor is a surface pressure input type fingerprint sensor.

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